

CN 227

X/13 CURT -- RADICAL SWEDISH LEFTIST QUILS RUSSIAN SOCIETY

STOCKHOLM, AUG. 23 (RFE SPECIAL/THRANE) -- PROF. JOACHIM ISRAEL, RADICAL LEFT INTELLECTUAL AND LEADING MEMBER OF SWEDENS RUSSELL TRIBUNAL COMMITTEE, TODAY QUIT THE SWEDISH-SOVIET SOCIETY IN DISGUST.

PROF. ISRAEL, AN UPPSALA UNIVERSITY SOCIOLOGIST, PUBLISHED IN THIS AFTERNOONS SWEDISH PRESS THE CONTENTS OF A TELEGRAM HE SAID HE SENT TO THE SWEDISH-SOVIET SOCIETY:

"AS A PROTEST AGAINST THE SOVIET OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, I HEREBY RESIGN AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD. AS A SOCIALIST, I MUST FIRMLY CONDEMN THE VIOLATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE PEOPLES, WHICH THE SOVIET UNION IS GUILTY OF.

"SOCIALISM TO ME HAS ALWAYS MEANT A LARGER MEASURE OF FREEDOM, NOT THE POSSIBILITY THAT FREEDOM COULD BE CRUSHED. AFTER A PERIOD OF LIBERALIZATION, THE SOVIET UNION SEEMS TO HAVE RETURNED TO STALINIST METHODS. I WILL MOST FIRMLY DISSOCIATE MYSELF FROM THAT POLICY."

THE SWEDISH-SOVIET SOCIETY IS A "FRIENDSHIP" SOCIETY OF PEOPLES OF ALL WALKS OF LIFE, BUT PREDOMINENTLY INTELLECTUALS, WHO MAKE EXCHANGE VISITS, AND SO ON.

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